Mr. George Chakyamuri.—Sir, I do not think I have much to add to what has been very succinctly and elaborately explained by the Hon'ble Member for South Ezhuvas. I accept the principles underlying the resolution *in toto* and I have only to express my own personal thanks and the thanks of my constituency for the Hon'ble Member for Trippunittura for giving us this opportunity of discussing this matter in this Council.

Mr. P. Raman Menon.—Sir, I have very little to add. The Government have pointed out some practical difficulties in accepting the resolution. I find that they are real difficulties; though the same difficulties will be found to confront them in Government service also. I do not therefore propose to press the resolution and beg leave of the House to withdraw the same.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—If the Member is asking leave of the House to withdraw this resolution I oppose that.

Resolution was, with leave, withdrawn.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—A poll, Sir.

The House divided—Ayes 20, Noes 11 and Neutrals 4:

Ayes.	Noes.
1. Mr. K. Achyuta Menon	1. Mr. K. Ayyappan
2. ,, V. K. Aravindaksha Menon	2. ,, M. A. Chakko
3. ,, C. Barton Wright	3. ,, George Chakyamuri
4. ,, M. P. Cherian	4. ,, Joseph Pettah
5. ,, A. Eachara Menon	5. ,, P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan
6. Dr. A. G. Menon	6. ,, C. A. Ouseph
7. Mr. P. Krishna Menon	7. ,, Paul Mampilli
8. ,, C. J. Mathew	8. ,, M. K. Raman
9. ,, I. N. Menon	9. ,, T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar
10. ,, T. Narayana Menon	10. ,, K. P. Vallon
11. ,, P. Nilakanta Menon	11. ,, P. C. Varkey
12. Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao	
13. Mr. P. Raman Menon	
14. Rama Varmha Tampuran	
15. Dr. A. R. Menon	**Neutrals.**
16. Mr. P. V. Raphael	
17. ,, A. Sankara Menon	1. Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar
18. Dr. K. Sankara Menon	2. ,, P. S. Kesavan Nambudiri
19. Mr. A. Sankara Poduval	3. ,, S. S. Koder
20. ,, Thomas Manjuran	4. Mrs. Swaris

Remission of 25% Land Revenue for 1110.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Sir, I move that.

This Council recommends to the Government to give 25 per cent remission in the land tax in the next year.

Sir, I do not think that a long speech is necessary to press this resolution for the acceptance of the Government. Resolutions similar to this have been passed in this Council and by other Councils in other parts of the country. We also find similar resolutions passed in many public meetings all over the country. The basic principle of this resolution is that the price of all the local products have fallen very low and on account of

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this abnormal fall in the prices, the people are finding it very difficult to pay the Government tax. Our Government, although this Council recommended only a 12½ per cent remission, realising the real situation in the country, was pleased to give us 18¾ per cent remission this year. I would not probably have brought this resolution at this part of the year had it not been for the fact that the Government in their proceedings giving us remission stated that they would not give us this remission next year. I would have rest contended if the Government had stated therein that in case the economic depression continues they would be pleased to give us remission. But they made it very clear, almost they went to the extent of saying that it will not be granted in the next year. Sir, my object in bringing this resolution at this stage is to tell you that the situation has not in any way improved. If at all, I would say we are going from bad to worse. Even the reserve strength we had in the beginning has been lost. The prices are still falling down. My resolution requests only for a reduction of 25 per cent. I think it would be admitted by all that the fall in the price is much more than 50 per cent. It is in some cases 70 per cent. The request that I make in this resolution is so modest that I think it would not be difficult for the Government to accept it. With these few words and in the hope that the Government will not oppose this resolution and also in the belief that if I have anything to say. I would say it in my reply I commend this resolution for the consideration of this House.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon—I beg to second it.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—Sir, I would beg leave of the House to make the position of the Government clear in this matter (*Hear, hear*). The Hon'ble Member for Oorakam said that the Government had definitely stated that they would not be prepared even to consider the question of a reduction in the proceedings sanctioning the 18¾ per cent remission. I do not know whether such a definite attitude on the part of the Government could be spelt out of the Proceedings. I will read the Proceedings. It runs thus.—

"Allowance has already been made in the budget for a remission of 12½ per cent and the execution of works of a value equal to the balance of 6¼ per cent will be postponed. While granting this remission Government desire to make it clear that it will be impossible to make a similar grant in future years. The remission has only been made possible by the postponement of necessary public works the execution of which cannot be indefinitely put off. For the current year however Government have after careful consideration decided that the balance of advantage lies in granting the remission and postponing the works."

The two sentences I submit have to be read together and the Government have made it clear that if the remission in any portion of the land revenue results in the postponement to a

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corresponding extents of works of public utility that course cannot be pursued, consistent with public interest and safety in future years. If therefore the proposal to make a reduction of 25 per cent in the year 1110 is bound to result in the starvation of several public works of utility and importance to a corresponding or even to a grave extent Government have stated that that course would be hazardous in the interests of public good. I request the House to view the matter in that light.

In the first place the acceptance of this resolution certainly involves a considerable reduction in the receipts for the coming year. To be exact it would be somewhere in the vicinity of Rs. 2,72,600. The House would certainly see that it is an enormous sum. The question whether that can be spared can certainly be considered only at the time of framing the budget and having a clear view of what our requirements for the coming year would be. I submit it is too early to bring a proposition of this kind now. The Government have not got the full materials and it cannot be had until the time comes for the preparation of the next year's budget, and we know what our demands in the various directions in the next year would be. That is one matter.

I say, the resolution is inopportune for another reason also. The Hon'ble Members of this House would have been aware that the Government of India are considering the question of prohibiting the importation of rice into India. I am not saying that definite orders have been passed in the matter. Supposing such orders are passed then we have to want and see what effect it would have upon the fall in prices; whether it would for instance have the effect of raising the prices. I am not going to predict. It is always dangerous to predict in such matters. It is a matter which should certainly be taken into consideration. I say, therefore, that the matter need not be brought in at this precise moment. We have still time to take the question up. What decision the Government of India comes to in the matter, what exactly our requirements are for the next year, are all matters to be considered. I say it will be better to bring this proposal on a more fitting occasion, when we consider the budget and when our requirements in other directions are also known. That is the next matter.

I say again that the fullness of materials which the gravity of the resolution demands, the Hon'ble Member himself will admit does not exist now. Can the Hon'ble Member say exactly what our requirements would be for the next year. We have no real idea of what our budget would do. The Hon'ble Member gives it as a reason that the Government have made a pronouncement for all time to come. Even now the present reduction

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

materially affect the Government's receipts. The Government have only stated that if reduction is asked for and if that reduction has got the inevitable result of starving other works of public utility and importance, then certainly Government would not be prepared to consider the question of a remission. Now I would only request the Hon'ble Mover of the resolution to withdraw the resolution and bring it at a better time, that is, at the time of the budget. It has been said that similar resolutions have been passed by other legislatures. But surely unless we are told that their budget requirements stood at a similar footing with our requirements, their resources corresponded to our resources, and the justification for a 25 per cent reduction there exists here also, I do not think that the analogy will hold good. Unless it is followed by proof that our budget does not differ their budget and that our requirements are similar I submit that the reason for remission can hold good here.

Therefore I make the request to the Hon'ble Member to withdraw the resolution just now and bring it afterwards at a more opportune moment namely during the discussion of the budget.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ.—സാർ, ഞാൻ ഈ നിശ്ചയത്തെ എതിർക്കുന്നു. ഇതുപോലുള്ള ഒരു നിശ്ചയം ആദ്യം വന്നപ്പോൾ ഞാൻ അതിനെ എതിർത്തു. അതിനുശേഷം ഇതുമാതിരി ഒരു നിശ്ചയം വന്നപ്പോൾ അതിനെ താൻ പ്രൊവിഷനലായിട്ടു പിൻതാങ്ങി. എന്നാൽ അതിനെപ്പറ്റിയുള്ള സ്വീകരിച്ചതിന്റെ ദോഷഫലം പിന്നീടു പ്രത്യക്ഷപ്പെട്ടു. അതായതു് പബ്ലിക്കു വർക്സിൽനിന്നു കുറെ പണം വെട്ടിച്ചുരുക്കുകയുണ്ടായി. എന്റെ വാദം ഈ വക റവന്യു കുറഞ്ഞുകൊണ്ടു ക്ഷാമനിവാരണം ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടുന്ന ആളുകൾക്കു യാതൊരു സഹായവും ചെയ്യുന്നതായി വരുകയില്ല എന്നാണു്. വളരെ അധികം കരം കൊടുക്കുന്ന ആളുകൾക്കു മാത്രമേ ഇതുകൊണ്ടു പ്രയോജനം കിട്ടുകയുള്ളൂ. നമ്മുടെ രാജ്യത്തു് അധികപേരും വെറുതെ കരം കൊടുക്കുന്നവരാണു്. അവർക്കു യാതൊരു ഗുണവും ഉണ്ടാകയില്ലെന്നു മാത്രമല്ല; ഗവൺമെണ്ടിന്റെ ആദായത്തിൽ ഒരു വലിയ സംഖ്യ കുറയുകയും ചെയ്യുന്നു. ഇതു് ഏതാണ്ടു് ഉച്ചസത്രാഗാരം പോലെയുള്ള രക്ഷാമാർഗ്ഗമാണു്. ഏതായാലും ഗവൺമെണ്ടു് ടാക്സു് റമിറ ചെയ്താലും പബ്ലിക്കു വർക്സിലും മറ്റും അനുവദിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള സംഖ്യ വെട്ടിക്കുറയ്ക്കുവാൻ ഇടവരുന്നതരുതു്.

ഇതുകൊണ്ടു് കൂടുതൽ ഗുണംകിട്ടുന്നതു് ജന്മിമാർക്കാണു്. കുടിയാനവന്മാർക്കു അവർ കൊടുക്കേണ്ടുന്ന സംഖ്യയിൽ ഒരു കുറവും വരുന്നില്ല. എന്നാൽ വാസ്തവത്തിൽ കുറവുചെയ്തുകൊടുക്കേണ്ടതു കുടിയാനവന്മാർക്കാണു്. ഇപ്പോൾ നഷ്ടം സഹിക്കുന്നവരും അവരാണു്. ഇതു് അനുവദിച്ചുകൊടുത്താലും ഇല്ലെങ്കിലും മുമ്പിലു

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ത്തെ നിലയിലുള്ള പാട്ടം ജന്മിമാർ അവരിൽനിന്നും ഇളവാക്കാതിരിക്കയില്ല. പണമായിട്ട് കൊടുക്കുന്നവരെ ഉദ്ദേശിച്ചാണ് ഞാൻ പറയുന്നത്. തെങ്ങുകൃഷിക്കാർ പണമായിട്ടാണ് പാട്ടം കൊടുക്കുന്നത്. ഇതുകൊണ്ട് അധികപക്ഷം ജനങ്ങൾക്കും പറയത്തക്ക റിലീഫ് ഇല്ലെന്നമാത്രമല്ല, ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിനു നഷ്ടവും ഉണ്ടാകും. ഇതു സ്വീകരിച്ചുകഴിഞ്ഞാൽ ജനങ്ങൾക്കുവേണ്ട. ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിൽനിന്നും ചെയ്തുകൊടുക്കേണ്ട വേലകൾ മുടക്കിവയ്ക്കുവാനും ഇടയാകും. അതുകൊണ്ട് ഞാൻ ഇതിനെ എതിർക്കുന്നു.

Mr. M. A. Chakko—Sir, I rise to support this resolution. It is asked for as a relief to the agriculturists land owners of the State, that their resources have been much reduced by the fall in prices will be admitted by all. The argument brought forward by the Member for South Ezhuvas is that if such reductions are granted to the land owners it will not so much appreciably benefit the vast majority of the people who are not land owners. But when the land owners are more affected, the persons who produce agricultural stuff and put in the market, these people have suffered greatly and not the others, we must consider only the land owners in the fist instance. So far as the labourers are concerned I do not think they are worse off because food grains are cheaper than we could dream of. So also, the other articles that are required by an average labourer for his existence, could be had cheap in the market. The wages of a labourer have not gone down very much. Therefore to give some relief to the agriculturists is a matter of urgent necessity, I should think that the labourers need not be sorry if the Government did them somethings, and putting off the taking of important public works for another year.

Another point which must be considered is that when the last remission was passed in the House it was pointed out that it would grant relief to the Jenmies more than the actual tillers of the soil. Then the Government and those who supported the motion said that the burden that lay on the tiller of the soil would be considered, the Jenmies would readily allow that remission which they get on the land to pass over to the tillet of the soil, that is the tenant. But as I have indicated to the Government by an interpellation which I sent for an answer and which unfortunately was rejected for particular reasons I come to understand that the Government themselves do not show a good example for other jenmies to follow. I understand that the premier jenmi of the State namely the Paliyam has been allowing some sort of remission to its tenants. But Government jenmi I understand have not been allowing remissions to the tillers of the soil. So if the Government is earnest to afford some relief

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

to the persons who actualy derive their subsistence and means of livelihood from the produce of the soil then it must be time for them to consider that this is most distressing of times we had of late. As far as I can understand cocoanut products such as copra and oil have been sold less than 70 per cent down. The latest quotation for oil I heard was Rs. 52—4—0 per candy. In normal times it was Rs. 150 and above. It is less than one this may be remembered the cocoanut lands were assessed at a time when the average price of oil was between Rs. 120 and Rs. 150. So if the Government insists on realising the tax or impost which they put upon the land at these normal times I must say that it is not fair. So in view of all these circumstances I should support the motion that 25 per cent reduction should be provided for in the next budget for the remission of land revenue.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—Sir, I oppose the resolution, not that I do not want the reduction. To the extent relief given is relief. We know that the Government have been generous. We know Government have been trying to find all possible avenues to solve the situation and help the people. Last time this Council passed a resolution demanding a reduction of 12½ per cent but when the proceedings were passed the Government were pleased to grant us a remission of 18¾ per cent. We know that Government have instituted a Committee and they are trying their level best to solve the question in all its aspects. When the Government is making an honest endeavour, my only request is that we should not embarrass the Government. If the Government have got funds I have absolutely no doubt they will grant us a remission. We find that when we asked for 12½ per cent we were given more. They are exploring all the avenues. That being the case we should not embarrass the Government. If funds are available I dare say Government will give every relief if at the time of the preparation of the budget Government finds there are funds they will make the necessary reduction. We have expressed our desire. Every body wants the remission. It will be welcome to all. What the Member for Narakkal has stated is perfectly true. My constituency I may say is most hard hit by the fall in the price of cocoanuts and cocoanut products. My question is if the Government is not in a position to find funds why should you want to embarrass the Government? Government must be able to balance the budget. We are also suggesting several methods of improvement. When this House and when the Government are trying to find out new avenues, we should not tie down the hands of the Government by demanding a remission of 25 per cent. I would earnestly request the member to withdraw the resolution.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. A. Sankara Poduval.—I agree with the Revenue Member in thinking that the resolution is premature. So far as next year is concerned there is no knowing what the Government Revenue is going to be. There may be some remission; there may not be any remission at all; or if circumstances so change to the prejudice of ryot there might be a reduction of more than 25 per cent. The effect of this resolution is obviously to bring home to Government the sad truth that conditions are getting worse and worse. But that is no ground to press the motion to a division. There would be ample opportunity for it during the budget debate. It is generally desirable to balance the budget and we may consider the matter in due time. Anyhow, the probable change of conditions four months hence need not be anticipated now. We get our opportunity to present our views during the budget session, and so I would request the honourable mover not to press the resolution now.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—There is much truth in what is stated by the Member for Trichur that there is ample time before us. But that need not detain us to the extent indicated by the Hon'ble Member for Palliviruthi. We are only making a recommendation may be accepted or may not be accepted. The Member for Palliviruthi is very chivalrous. He hopes that our Government is doing everything that is needed and he hopes that everything that is needed and he hopes that everything can be left to the Government in the hope that they will do all that is good. I have my own doubts whether it will be safe to give all these powers to the Government. The Council not only once but more times had pressed upon the Government the necessity of giving a remission of 12½ per cent and it was only after our repeated requests were reinforced by some unfortunate occurances that the Government was pleased to pass orders granting a remission. Our purpose is only to make the Government understand that there is a real necessity. Things are going from bad to worse. We do not ask the Government to carry out this measure at once. This resolution may be passed but if the Government sees that things improve by next year, of course Government can as well say that there is no necessity to act upon this resolution. I may add one thing more in this connection. The real benifit of this resolution must, if carried into effect, go to the people at large. There is a great clamour regarding the 18¾ per cent remission already made. Tenants are complaining that most of the jenmies have by some device or other hoodwinked the tenants. They have not had the advantage which the Government thought they would have. If the Government think of giving any remission hereafter, it must be so planed that the poor hardworking tenant, whose returns do

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not find a sale in the market must get the advantage of the remission. I should not for a moment be taken to say that the jenmi does not require any relief. Certainly the jenmi also deserves relief. But the relief should not be all for the jenmi and none for the tenant. Sir, the Devaswams have been the hardest of all jenmies thus far. In the case of Devaswams, till this moment they have not given any remission though the Government remitted the tax to the extent of 18¾ per cent in the case of Devaswam lands also. Devaswams exist for the Gods and people see that Gods are never starved. Why not the Devaswams remit something in favour of their tenants?

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Sir, I rise to a point of order. I had sent in a cut motion to the effect that there should be remission in the case of Devaswam lands and it was disallowed. I should like to know whether the Honourable member is in order.

President.—The Honourable Member was entirely out of order.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Sir, as pointed out by the leader of the House the budgettery position next year cannot be anticipated at present and unless we know where we will be with regard to the receipts and expenditure it is not possible to give any definite promise. Remissions are of course desirable provided the present conditions continue and provided Government can afford it. These are relative things and one thing cannot be decided absolutely out of relation with several other relevant factors. Suppose the customs revenue falls. Suppose we do not get much amounts as we got this year or for the last two years. Then there would be a huge fall under receipts and when such a huge fall under receipts happens it will not be possible to get on. There are several works in the D. P. W which are half finished and one-fourth finished and which it may not be possible to be postponed indefinitely. There are any number of such works called (C) class works which cannot be indefinitely postponed. If funds are not forthcoming to carry out these works we may have to reduce expenditure under items like remission. I do not think that any revelutionary change will occur to our budget under receipts. Since the customs revenue is a varying item and the excise revenue is not quite dependable especially in these times of distress we cannot give any definite promise that a remission will be given next year as well. This point was very carefully considered by the Government when they issued orders. The question whether a similar remission will not have to be made next year did not escape the Government's notice and it was because of this difficulty that

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

the Government had to introduce this clause. It was a very deliberate statement that the Government had to make. Such being the case it is very premature to move the motion. The Governmeni can only request the Hon'ble Member not to press it. If the real necessity for a remission is felt and if the Government have the necessary funds certainly the Government will not lag behind. They have not lagged behind in their endeavours. Therefore the most appropriate thing to do will be to withdraw the motion.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Sir, if the capacity of the people to pay the tax has anything to do with the payment of taxes, there is every justification for bringing this resolution now. My object in bringing this resolution is to tell the Government that the capacity of the people to pay has not been improved and that there seems to be absolutely no probability of improving it in the near future. I am very glad to note that even the Members who opposed my resolution had nothing to say about the improvement of the economic condition of the people. All the Members conceded that we are not in any way better off and that all of us are hit hard by the economic depression.

Now the only opposition to resolution is that it is rather premature. I would not have brought this resolution at this stage if the Council had the power of appropriation. As things now stand we have no power of appropriation and at best we can simply say we shall not allow that grant or this one. In effect we are really helpless. The Hon'ble Member for Palliviruthi need have absolutely no apprehension that this resolution will be embarassing the Government. They will never be embarassed, for we have absolutely no power to tie their hands. The real difficulty is not there. It is not an imaginary one also. We had been crying for this remission from 1107 and 1108, and in all those years Government said that it was impossible to balance the Budget, that they had made no provision in the budget and that it was impossible therefore to give the remission. On account of the cry we raised last year they made provision for 12½ per cent in the budget. If we had not made that timely cry here I apprehend that there was every chance of the Government saying that it was impossible for them to balance the budget.

Now the position taken up by the Government is that if the condition continues in this way and if the financial condition of the Government also permits it they will consider about a remission at the time of the budget. There are two conditions. I can very well understand the force of the first position. So far as the second position taken up by the Government is concerned, I

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

find it very difficult to understand it. I had been in this Council for the last 9 years and I have seen about 9 budgets. I did not see any originality in any of them. Beyond a statement of figures in the various columns and some changes here and there, say, 2 lakhs for the College scheme this year changed into 2 lakhs for the Karivannur scheme in the next and so on and so forth. It is only a manipulation and balancing of figures.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—What more do you expect?

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Nothing, Sir, under the present circumstances. My object is only to bring to the notice of the Government that it is their duty to understand the real state of affairs and to find out ways and means for facing it. It may be the customs revenue may not be so dependable as before. They can, by not taking up items that are not absolutely necessary, save some money. Or by retrenching the pay of the officers they can save some more. After all it is only a matter of 2½ lakhs. If they cut the pay of the officers by 10 per cent as was done last year they can very easily find it out. My submission is, in the state in which we are, considering the powers that this Council has, I do not find my way to admit the proposition put forward that this resolution is premature. This is the only appropriate time when we can bring it up. The question of passing this motion is not my only consideration. What I want is remission. The Council has power only to make requests to Government. I have made that request. Since they have assured this House that they would consider this question seriously at the time of the preparation of the budget I do not propose to press this resolution for a division. I therefore request leave of the House to withdraw my resolution.

Resolution was, with leave, withdrawn.

Removal of all unapproachability Notice Boards.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Sir, I move that—

This Council recommends to the Government to remove all unapproachability Notice Boards and not to allow any such notice boards being newly put up anywhere in the State.

സാർ, ഇപ്പോൾ ചിലസ്ഥലത്തു് നോട്ടീസുബോർഡുകൾ വയ്ക്കുവാനുള്ള ശ്രമം നടന്നുവരുന്നതായി അറിയുന്നു. തിരുവഞ്ചിക്കുളത്തു് മുമ്പു് എല്ലാവരും നടന്നിരുന്നതായ പുറമ്പോക്കു സ്ഥലത്തു് ചിലജാതിക്കാരെ പ്രവേശിപ്പിയ്ക്കാതിരിക്കുവാൻവേണ്ടി നോട്ടീസുബോർഡുകൾ വക്കുന്നകാര്യത്തിൽ ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടിൽ നിന്നും എഴുത്തുകുത്തുകൾ നടക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്. അതിൽ ചില സമുദായക്കാരെ ഉദ്ദേശിച്ചു് Low castes എന്നു വളരെ അപമാനകരമായ നിലയിലുള്ള ചില പദങ്ങളെല്ലാം പ്രയോഗിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നു. അതു ക്ഷന്തവ്യമല്ല; അതിരിക്കട്ടെ. ഒരു കാലത്തു നടപ്പിലിരിക്കുന്ന ആചാരങ്ങ

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